

Aim: How important were emperors to Rome?

I Julian Emperors

A. Tiberius

- a. Emperor after Augustus's death
- b. 14-37 A.D
- c. Great warrior and good administrator
- d. Was able to keep economy stable and military disciplined
- e. Unfriendly most people hated him

B. Caligula

- a. Tiberius's successor
- b. 37-41 AD
- c. Had circus maximus to keep people happy
- d. Sexual deviant, homosexual and orgies
- e. Went crazy at age 27 started executions
- f. Believed he was a god
- g. Assassinated at age of 29

C. Claudius

- a. 41-54 AD
- b. Helped expand Roman empire by conquering Britain, and places in north Africa, Asia Minor and Gaul

D. Nero

- a. 54-68
- b. Cruel and insane
- c. Persecuted Christians
- d. 64 AD "great fire" he blamed the Christians
- e. Commits suicide in 68
- f. His death marked the end of Caesar's family on the throne

II Five Good Emperors

1. Nerva- very capable emperor of Rome
2. Trajan- Great general and added territory to Rome
3. Hadrian- Stoic with a high sense of duty to Rome

Stoic -Its later Roman form advocated the calm acceptance of all occurrences as the unavoidable result of divine will or of the natural order

4. Antonius Pius- uneventful reign of 23 years
5. Marcus Aurelius-Stoic and last emperor of the Pax Romana

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III Third Century Crisis

- a. Commodus- Marcus Aurelius's son
- b. Ruled 13 years and was strangled by followers
- c. 50 yrs of civil wars
- d. 235-284 CE
- e. 26 barrack emperors caused internal and external cracks
 - i. Taxes
 - ii. Weak defenses
 - iii. Verge of collapsing